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Attorney's Docket No.: 07078-003003

#9/B  
7/17/02

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Yamamoto, et al.  
Serial No. : 09/782,794  
Filed : February 13, 2001  
Title : BONE GRAFTING MATRIX

Art Unit : 3738  
Examiner : Javier G. Blanco

RECEIVED

JUL 10 2002

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

RESPONSE

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action of March 18, 2002. A request for a one-month extension is enclosed. With the extension, the response is due by July 18, 2002.

Please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 1-18, and 21-23, without prejudice.

Please amend claim 19 to read as follows:

*D.*  
*B.*  
19. (Amended) A method of bone repair comprising the step of applying a composition comprising a porous, biodegradable, three-dimensionally stable matrix having shape retention comprising a bound network of water-insoluble mineralized biopolymer and a water-insoluble binder, effective to promote bone growth at a desired site of bone repair.

Please add claims 24 and 25 as follows:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

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